

App. No. 10/788,989
 Amendment Dated October 6, 2006
 Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2006

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Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for using a color scheme to communicate ~~information~~ software application functionality associated with an incoming event notification and related to the integration of hardware and software in a computing device, comprising:

providing a software application on a computing device, wherein the software the software application associates a function with a soft key according to an incoming event notification, wherein the function of the soft key is selectable by receiving an input from a hardware button;

associating a color scheme with the software application to indicate that the function of the soft key is associated with the hardware button;

receiving an incoming event notification that instantiates the software application on the computing device, wherein the software application determines software functionality options for the software key for responding to the incoming event notification; and

illuminating the soft key and the hardware button on the computing device according to the color scheme to indicate that the hardware button is associated with the soft key functionality for responding to the incoming event notification.

~~receiving an event at the computing device;~~

~~determining whether the received event is a member of a select group of events, each event in the select group of events corresponding to a software element that has an associated color scheme, wherein the software element is associated with a user interface display of the computing device;~~

~~determining a color value associated with the event that is a member of the select group of events, the color value corresponding to the color scheme of the software element, wherein a change to the color scheme of the software element results in a change in the color value; and~~

~~illuminating the software element on the user interface display and a corresponding hardware button on the computing device according to the color value when the event is a member of the select group of events to indicate the integration of the function of the~~

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~~hardware button with the software element such that the information associated with the event is communicated to a user.~~

Claims 2-5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein illuminating the hardware button further comprises illuminating an illuminating element, wherein the illuminating element is at least one member of a group comprising: a tri-colored light emitting diode and an electroluminescence light.

7. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with an incoming call ~~and the select group of events is a user selected group of callers.~~

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the color scheme changes to communicate information corresponding to elapsed time associated with the software application event.

9. (Currently amended) A system for using a color scheme to communicate ~~information~~ software functionality associated with an incoming event notification and related to the integration of hardware and software in a mobile computing device, comprising:
a memory of the mobile computing device that is arranged to receive an incoming event, notification wherein a determination is made whether the received incoming event notification ~~is associated with a software element a member of a select group of events;~~
a software element associated with a user interface display of the mobile computing device, wherein:
the software element is coupled to the memory,
the software element corresponds to the incoming event notification event ~~that is a member of the select group of events,~~

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the software element instantiates when the incoming event notification associated with the software element is received, wherein the software element determines software functionally options for a soft key for responding to the incoming event notification.

the software element associates a function with a soft key, wherein the function associated with the soft key is selected by receiving an input from a hardware button.

the software element has an associated color scheme, and

~~the color scheme corresponds to~~ indicates that the function of the soft key is associated with the hardware button a color value such that the color value changes when the color scheme of the software element is changed;

an illuminating element coupled to the memory; and

a the hardware button coupled to the illuminating element, wherein:

the hardware button and the soft key are illuminated on the mobile computing device according to the color scheme to indicate that the hardware button is associated with the soft key functionality for responding to the incoming event notification.

~~the software element is configured to be illuminated on the user interface display according to the color value when the event is a member of the select group of events, and~~

~~the illuminating element is configured to illuminate the hardware button according to the color value when the event is a member of the select group of events to indicate the integration of the function of the hardware button with the software element such that the information associated with the event is communicated to a user.~~

Claims 10-13 (Cancelled)

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14. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 9, wherein the illuminating element is at least one member of a group comprising: a tri-colored light emitting diode and an electroluminescence light.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 9, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with an incoming call ~~and the select group of events is a user-selected group of callers.~~

17. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 9, wherein the color scheme changes to communicate information corresponding to elapsed time associated with the software element event.

18. (Currently amended) A system for using a color scheme to communicate ~~information~~ software functionality associated with an incoming event notification and related to the integration of hardware and software in a mobile computing device, comprising:

means for providing a software application on a computing device, wherein the software application includes a brand, wherein the software application associates a function with a soft key according to an incoming event notification, wherein the function of the soft key is selectable by receiving an input from a hardware button;

means for associating a color scheme with the software application to indicate a brand and to indicate that the function of the soft key is associated with the hardware button;

means for receiving an incoming event notification that instantiates the software application on the computing device, wherein the software application determines software functionality options for the software key for responding to the incoming event notification; and

means for illuminating the soft key and the hardware button on the computing device according to the color scheme to indicate the brand and to indicate the hardware button associated with the soft key functionality for responding to the incoming event notification.

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~~means for receiving an event at the mobile computing device;~~

~~means for determining whether the received event is a member of a select group of events, each event in the select group of events corresponding to a software element that has an associated color scheme, wherein the software element is associated with a user interface display of the mobile computing device;~~

~~means for determining a color value associated with the event that is a member of the select group of events, the color value corresponding to the color scheme of the software element, wherein a change to the color scheme of the software element results in a change in the color value; and~~

~~means for illuminating the software element on the user interface display and a corresponding hardware button on the mobile computing device according to color value when the event is a member of the select group of events to indicate the integration of the function of the hardware button with the software element such that the information associated with the event is communicated to a user.~~

Claims 19-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 18, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with an incoming call and the select group of events is a user-selected group of callers.

26. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with a guide for user action.

27. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 9, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with a guide for user action.

28. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 18, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with a guide for user action.

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29. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with a calendar reminder.

30. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 9, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with a calendar reminder.

31. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 18, wherein the incoming event notification is associated with a calendar reminder.